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Rules and Regulations Committee Minutes
(Approved May 11, 2015)

The Rules and Regulations Committee held a meeting on April 20, 2015 at 9:00 A.M. in Conference Room B, Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Blvd, Dover, Delaware.

PRESENT: Linda Darling, Denise O'Donnell, Karen Rollo, Sharon Mills-Wisneski, Gary Alderson (telephone)

ABSENT: Nat'e Guyton

GUESTS: None

PRESIDING: Linda Darling

STAFF: Pamela Zickafoose, Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Darling called the meeting to order at 9:11 am. Since this was the first committee meeting in a number of years, the members introduced themselves.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: Minutes from October 25, 2010 were shared for informational purposes only as committee membership had changed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. O'Donnell questioned the outcomes from the previous meetings with this committee. Dr. Zickafoose provided an historical perspective of the committee and stated that 10 sections of rules were updated in 2011. Additional sections have been revised over the past 3 years. The purpose of this committee is to review/revise the rules in Section 4, the supervised practice plan, and to update the form used.

Review of Section 3 Nursing Refresher Courses and Section 4 Supervised Practice Plan (SPP) for Nurses

Ms. Darling stated she previously had experience as a DON with a nurse who needed a supervised practice plan. This raised concerns and now as a member of the board she agreed to chair this committee. She reviewed the documents related to supervised practice and refresher courses prior to this meeting and found the RN and LPN supervised practice is not clearly differentiated. In addition, there are no specific guidelines to assist the supervising RN on basic expectations. Members discussed the refresher courses and compared the requirements for both refreshers and the SPP. Dr. Mills-Wisneski commented that a nurse out of practice more than 5 years would need

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education to bring the nurses knowledge and skill level up to current standards. It could also be a burden on a facility to conduct a SPP. Mr. Alderson cautioned the group to not place a roadblock to practice and for employers to bring staff on board. Ms. Darling clarified the intent is not to make the SPP longer. Instead it is to improve on the current process and to further differentiate RN and LPN scope of practice. Ultimately, a SPP and refresher course should have comparable outcomes. Members were reminded the mission of the Board is to protect the public and to be sure that licensees are safe to practice.

SPP Checklist Comparison and Revisions

Members briefly reviewed the checklist and decided to bring samples of skills checklists to the next meeting to “flesh out” topics.

OTHER BUSINESS before the committee (for discussion only): Once the SPP sections are completed, this committee needs to review the rules for licensure of foreign graduates.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

NEXT MEETING- May 11, 2015 at 9 AM Conference Room B, Cannon Building. Please review the statute as well as sections 2, 3, and 4 for the next meeting. Dr. Zickafoose will review the NCSBN model rules to determine if there is language related to refresher courses and SPPs.

ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela C. Zickafoose, EdD, MSN, RN, NE-BC, CNE
Executive Director
Delaware Board of Nursing